

Christ Church St.Lucia – Parish Profile

Summary

Christ Church St.Lucia is looking for a new Rector. Christ Church is a well-established, single centre parish located in the leafy suburb of St.Lucia, 6km from the Brisbane CBD, close to the University of Queensland. The Parish has a strong musical tradition, with an accomplished traditional Anglican choir and a new Allen digital organ. Our Director of Music is the internationally renowned organist, Christopher Wrench, who frequently presents organ recitals in the church. The Parish is well-placed financially, supporting four full or part-time staff members, and it is currently engaged in a program of redevelopment of its buildings. We are looking for a full-time Rector, inspired by God and comfortable with the liberal Anglo-Catholic tradition of the Parish. The Rector will be enthusiastic about and sympathetic towards the musical traditions of the Parish. We are seeking a Rector with a vision for outreach to grow the Kingdom of God in St.Lucia and beyond, and who shows great energy and a high level of coordinating ability.

The Location

The Parish is located on Central Avenue in St.Lucia, a sought-after and established inner suburb in Brisbane which is home to the University of Queensland and several large schools and colleges. As the student population of the University of Queensland has increased over the past years, housing in St.Lucia has increased in density, particularly mid-rise apartment living. Despite this, much of the earlier character of a leafy and prosperous suburb remains.



The Parish



Christ Church St Lucia is part of the Anglican Church of Southern Queensland. The 2016 Australian Bureau of Statistics Census indicated that of a population of approximately 12,500 in St.Lucia, approximately 1,100 identified as Anglican. In 2020, there were 201 families on the Parish roll, with typical weekly service attendance of 169 communicants in 2019. We currently have about 12 families with teenage or younger children and we see this as an area for potential growth.

Because of the nature of the worship, many parishioners are attracted to Christ Church from outside the Parish boundaries.

The church was built in 1969 and designed by award-winning architect Ron Voller. As well as the church, the Parish has a rectory across the road from the church, a spacious church hall and a curate's house. The Parish is currently in the process of redeveloping the rectory, with current expectations that the refurbished rectory will be available by late 2022 or early 2023. The Parish Council has also been developing plans for the redevelopment of other buildings in the Parish.

Christ Church St Lucia is well-placed financially, with projected income of \$290,000 for 2021 and has several additional endowments. As well as a full-time Rector, the Parish employs a part-time Director of Music, a part-time Youth and Family Ministry Coordinator and a part-time Administrator. Two Church Wardens and an active Parish Council assist with executive and leadership responsibilities in the Parish. A major activity for many years has been an annual Garage Sale, the profits from which are mostly used for outreach activities, but this has been cancelled in recent years because of COVID restrictions.

Parish Worship

The style of worship in the Parish is in the Australian Anglo-Catholic tradition using *A Prayer Book for Australia* and hymns from *Together in Song*. The Parish currently holds two services each Sunday at 7:00 and 9:00 am, with the choir singing at the 9 am service. Prior to COVID, a service was also held on Wednesday morning and this has yet to recommence. We are also part of an ecumenical roster providing a regular worship service at the local AVEO Taringa facility. During the COVID period, weekly services were recorded and these can be viewed on the Parish YouTube channel. On Sunday evenings an Evening Prayer service has been held, and four times a year, the choir sings Choral Evensong.

Music

Services have been sung at Christ Church St Lucia continuously since 1969 and several previous Directors of Music have gone on to become Directors of Music in cathedrals or to academic careers. The choir, The Lucian Singers, is an accomplished, traditional Anglican church choir of approximately 20 singers in the Australian RSCM tradition. The choir sings at the 9:00 am Sunday service (except January



and holidays), at choral evensong, which is held four times a year and at important feast days such as Christmas, Easter, All Souls and our patronal festival, Christ the King.

The organ is an Allen digital organ with three manuals and pedals. The organ was installed in 2019 under instruction from our current organist and Director of Music, Mr. Christopher Wrench. As well as the organ, the Parish has a Yamaha grand piano in the church and an upright rehearsal piano in the hall. The Parish also provides stipends for an Organ Scholar and a Choral Scholar.

Other Activities

The Parish conducts several activities outside of the regular services. Bible studies are held in a variety of locations for different groups. Studies throughout Advent and Lent are also given priority. Weekly English language classes are offered to the local community as well as coffee mornings twice per month. There is a reading group which meets monthly for secular study of spiritual-related texts. A social committee coordinates hospitality for services and other activities. Our Youth and Family Ministry Coordinator runs Sunday School and Youth Group during school term time and was coordinating a regular Family Service prior to Covid.

Our new Rector

With the retirement of our previous Rector, the Venerable Michael Faragher, we are seeking a new priest to become our Rector. Our Parish is looking for a person who

- can take us forward in mission and ministry,
- is an energetic and committed Person-of-God,
- is able to lead our Parish in rich worship experiences,
- has a strong vision for outreach and growing the Kingdom of God in St.Lucia and beyond,
- is enthusiastic about and sympathetic towards the musical traditions of the Parish,
- is willing to work ecumenically and with other Anglican parishes in the local area,
- has proven ability to bring a high level of coordinating skill to managing teams and enhancing Parish activities.

Further Information

Any further enquiries may be made directly to Bishop John Roundhill via his secretary, Ann Armitage aarmitage@anglicanchurchsq.org.au